

18 May 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

On 18 May Mr. Colby met with the present CT class for an informal address, followed by questions. My viewpoint on his remarks is perhaps biased toward OTR, and these recollections will probably ignore points which other CT's thought were essential.

Mr. Colby's address included four major points:

1. The Agency will become less exclusively engaged in matters relating to national security. It will increase its consideration of factors which affect the national welfare, such as the narcotics problem.

2. There is a need for improved methods of analysis. The analyst should use techniques which are systematic and reproducible, so that if there is disagreement or weakness, it can be pinpointed.

3. Mr. Colby emphasized, as he has done before, that although he is no advocate of computers, he is not afraid of them, and he expects the same attitude from others.

4. In the future there will be more technologists (sic) and fewer operators and academics.

I asked him "In view of the technological present and future," whether he foresaw "Increased instruction in systematic methods of analysis and the use of computers." He answered with an unequivocal "yes", and added that we presently have an Information Science program, which has been even more successful than was expected.

In answer to another question he affirmed that there would be more emphasis on the Third World - citing the adage that "a stitch in time saves nine."

Finally, he stated that we must "get rid of thoughts that we can run a non-American intelligence service", on the Russian or even the British model. We will not lie, although we will still conceal. We will have to forget the concept of plausible denial; there may be "no comment" but not denial. He stated that he tests each document he signs by the criteria of what will happen if it is headlined in the New York Times.

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